

CONTROL OF NOISE FROM CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION SITES

INTRODUCTION

Due to the temporary nature of construction sites the legislation governing any noise emitted from them is less onerous than for more permanent noise sources such as industry. There is no set permitted noise level for construction sites only that there is a need for ensuring the Best Practicable Means are employed to minimise noise. This would include compliance with BS5228 which controls noise on construction and demolition sites. Section 60 Control of Pollution Act 1974 enables the Local Authority to:

- a) Specify the plant or machinery which is or is not to be used;
- b) Specify the hours during which works may be carried out;
- c) Specify the level of noise which may be emitted from the premises in question or at any specified point on those premises or which may be so emitted during specified hours

PROCEDURE

In all instances, the Case Officer will respond to the complainant within the performance indicator target, except in the case of a new complaint received out of normal working hours, when a response will be made the next working day whenever practicable.

The Investigating Officer has discretion in the manner of his / her investigation. In general, construction sites cause noise problems due to operating at unreasonable hours. The case officer should visit the site and interview the site manager informing them of the legislation and codes of practise. At this time they should also obtain details of the ownership of the land and any company/contractors working on the site.

The complainant shall be informed of the outcome of this meeting and of the requirements the site is subject to.

Should there remain a problem with noise from the site the standard Section 60 Control of Pollution Act 1974 shall be served on all relevant parties.

Following the service of the notice, Environmental Health staff are contactable 24 hours per day to respond to notification that the terms of the notice have been contravened, and will make all reasonable efforts to visit as soon as is practicable.

Where complainants have stated that they will not give evidence in Court, should legal proceedings be necessary, then formal action will not be taken by the Council. Any possibility of prosecution shall follow the Pollution Control Enforcement Policy.